

Office of the Director
of Central Intelligence



DATE: 9 April 1974

TO: All NIOs

SUBJECT:

Attached is a letter from the DCI to Hall of which you should all be aware. It is another manifestation of the seriousness of the DCI's intention to find new ways of presenting intelligence analysis or the fruits thereof to our consumers.



George A. Carver, Jr.
Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

Attachment

25X1

NIO # 622-74

8 APR 1974

The Honorable Albert C. Hall
Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Intelligence)
Department of Defense
Room 3E282, Pentagon
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Al:

You wrote to me in late December regarding the need to make intelligence consumers aware of the magnitude of the uncertainty in intelligence estimates. Your letter came during a period in which I had been reflecting on the whole process of presentation of intelligence to users of which portrayal of uncertainty is a part. I observe that the community sets for itself and attains marvelous goals with respect to collecting and processing information but has been most reserved in experimenting with ways to lessen the impedance between the analyst's mind and the user's eye and ear.

You know I have assigned [] to a task related to this. The emphasis of his work for me is to find and suggest how to exploit new ways of presenting intelligence to users. He intends to take a number of approaches to this problem: technical means of presentation; form, format and style; user interest level, need and urgency; storage, retrieval and display devices; and so forth.

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Part of presenting intelligence is a matter I can take care of in USIB once we determine what to do. Another part will require new hardware and methods,

and that will be appropriate to our IRAC considerations. I appreciate the interest you have expressed and welcome the support of your office as we move into this.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill

W. E. Colby

cc: Director, DIA

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6 APR 1974

Vice Admiral Vincent P. de Poix
Director
Defense Intelligence Agency
Room 3E258, Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Vince:

Enclosed is a response to a letter from Dr. Hall dealing with the presentation of intelligence to users. As Dr. Hall had also written to you for your views on this subject, I thought you might be interested in my reply. If DIA has been giving any consideration to this problem, I hope you will put someone in touch with [redacted]

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Sincerely,

/s/ Bill

W. E. Colby

Attachment:

Copy of letter to
Dr. Hall

APR 8 8 29 AM '74

Dist: [redacted] mlm: 5Apr74

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